



May 5, 2005

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Hon. Kevin J. Martin, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: Impact of E911 Regulation on VoIP and Hispanic Community
*IP-Enabled Services Rulemaking, WC Docket No. 04-36***

Dear Mr. Martin:

I am writing you today to express our high level of concern regarding the current initiatives of the FCC around E911/911 regulation for VoIP service providers. We believe this initiative has the potential to have an extremely negative impact on the US Hispanic community that DigiLinea serves which have been rapidly adopting VoIP technologies. As CEO and Founder of DigiLinea ("DigiLinea"), the leading VoIP service provider to the US Hispanic and Latin American markets, DigiLinea has been a leader in serving the US Hispanic communities VoIP needs and has been recognized as a VoIP pioneer as part of the 2004 Pulver 100 and as one of Internet Telephony's VoIP Service Providers of the Year. DigiLinea currently provides service to thousands of Hispanic and Latin American clients in the US and throughout Latin America, who take advantage of the DigiLinea VoIP service experiencing substantial savings over traditional offerings.

As you likely know the US Hispanic market and other minority communities have traditionally been a group very poorly served by incumbent telecom providers in that their products, services, and customer service does not generally fit the very specific needs of these communities. IP-enabled services providers like DigiLinea are meeting the needs of these communities in new and unique ways. VoIP has allowed for the first time the opportunity for DigiLinea to assure that the Hispanic community receives products and services directly tailored to their needs that allow them to have

affordable differentiated communications options. For example, DigiLinea allows its customers to have local, long distance, and up to 100 minutes of calling time to Latin America all for less than their current local phone bill. DigiLinea's also allows our US Hispanic clients to have a phone number from their home country assigned to their SIP phone allowing their friends and relatives back home to call them as if they were calling across the street. These services, which are essential to US Hispanics, would not be available if not provided on a VoIP platform.

Our strong suggestion would be not to rush to make requirements for 911 that would damage the communications options of the Hispanic community with solutions that are not yet technically feasible or without the FCC mandating the necessary cooperation from ILECs. Further, we feel the FCC must take the time to gather all the information necessary and have clarity on how any such order will treat certain forms of VoIP such as computer-to-computer, mobile or portable VoIP products and the unique issues in routing and delivering 911 calls that they face. The FCC must also be cognizant in taking any steps to preempt state 911 obligations and protect VoIP providers from having to comply with inconsistent and conflicting state plans. Overall our hope is the FCC will not adopt policies that place VoIP providers at a significant competitive disadvantage vis-à-vis ILECs making it unfeasible for us to serve the US Hispanic community.

The proposal as we understand it would have the impact of raising prices and make providing services to the Hispanic market much more expensive or impossible to provide for cost reasons depriving the community from a product in which they clearly see a great benefit. The end result would be that the US Hispanic community will have to continue to pay higher prices for services that don't meet their needs.

We strongly encourage you to consider closely the proposed regulations on this topic and the impact this will have on minority communities, such as the Hispanic market, many of whom have limited budgets but a high need to stay in contact with their friends, families and business associates. I fear the result of the proposed 911 regulations will be the return to a lack of choice, higher prices, and the previous status quo, which has been plaguing the US Hispanic market for years, coupled with a highly detrimental impact on VoIP providers who serve minority communities such as DigiLinea.

The Hispanic community is a vibrant part of our country and economy and hope the FCC takes into account the distinct needs of this community that DigiLinea serves and the impact such regulation will have on services available to them prior to making any decisions. We would be happy to discuss this matter further with you and your staff to assure you fully understand these needs so that the Hispanic community is not adversely affected by new regulation concerning IP enabled communications. We hope you will take the above comments under consideration prior to making any decision.

Respectfully,

Greg Keough
CEO
DigiLinea
www.DigiLinea.com

cc: Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy
Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein
Commissioner Michael Copps
Dan Gonzalez
Thomas Navin
Marlene Dortch, Secretary